

The Boy Scout Movement

A True Exposition of its Aims and Objects

PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF OREGON

March 1-1912

THE EVOLUTION OF THE IDEA.

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The Boy Scout movement in the United States had a double origin. Part of it is good and part bad. The bad part comes from England and was devised by General Baden-Powell. The good part, with a little that is unwise, comes from Ernest Thompson Seton, the American writer on wild nature. Mr. Seton with a real regard for the welfare of boys founded a society which he at first called Seton Indians. Its purpose was to teach boys woodcraft and the many useful manual arts which require skill of hand, strength and hardihood. This society was almost free from the curse of militarism and it did not teach that slavish subservience to wealth and power which is inherent in the Boy Scout movement as it now exists. A society for boys which aims only to make them familiar with nature and inculcate good habits of mind and body would be approved by everybody. Unhappily the Boy Scouts' organization has a very different object.

The bad part of the movement, as we have said above, comes from England and General Baden-Powell is responsible for it. He was a commander in the Boer war and could not help seeing how much inferior to the Boers the British soldiers were. He accounted for their inferiority on the ground that the Boers lived a free, outdoor life, while the British troops came from all sorts of dark holes and corners in the cities. The Boers were freemen while the British were the debased products of capitalist slavery. General Baden-Powell set his mind at work to think out a scheme which should give to British soldiers the physical stamina of the Boers and at the same time hold them in slavery to their masters. He wanted a race of men which should be strong and full of endurance while it was satisfied with slavery. The result of his thinking was the Boy Scouts. Of course he must begin with the young in order to work out his scheme. It would never have done to say openly that he wanted to become the drillmaster of the boys of Great Britain and train them all up to delight in bloodshed and murder. The open avowal of such a hideous purpose would have shocked the nation. Hence he concealed it under the delusive aspect of philanthropy. He pretended that he wanted only to improve the condition of the boys and kept the military part of his plan out of sight as much as he could.

To carry out this deceptive purpose General Baden-Powell combined Mr. Thompson Seton's Indian society with his own military teaching. The Seton idea was carefully pushed to the front. The military object was kept in the background and in both America and England the Boy Scout movement was heralded as a great philanthropic effort. Ministers, who are always easily deceived by quacks, took hold of it greedily. It was caught up by some school teachers and others who ought to have known better. But the real promoters of the Boy Scout movement are the enemies of progress and the friends of capitalist tyranny. Their purpose is to break the will of the young and prepare them for lifelong

industrial slavery by destroying the capacity for thought. Men who have thus been deprived of all individual initiative will of course make good soldiers. The "Scout Book" compares this devilish scheme to catching fish. "You bait your hook with the food the fish likes," is one of its precepts. The fish is the young boy. The bait is the woodcraft, the attractive games and exercises invented by Mr. Seton. The good part is used to conceal and sweeten the evil. Everybody would like to see his boys taught outdoor plays and healthy sports, but if the price of these benefits is to be militarism and industrial slavery many believe that they come too dear. We can develop healthy bodies without sacrificing our mental independence.

The evil of the Boy Scout movement is of two varieties. In the first place it prepares the mind for slavery by a false economic doctrine which is taught from the very beginning. The boy is told that social misery such as prostitution, lack of employment, poverty and crime arises from the bad habits of the working class. The real cause of these evils is the exploitation of the working class but this truth is carefully concealed. The Scout Book tells us that the unemployed "allow themselves to become slaves by the persuasive power of a few professional agitators." Again we are told that "there is work for all and money for all in this country." In connection with this false economic teaching boys are made to swear that they will be faithful to their employer, that they will not take part in political agitation against things as they are and in particular they are drilled in obedience to their officers. The evident purpose of this is to make them docile industrial serfs and unthinking soldiers when their masters require them to fight.

Again, the whole Boy Scout movement reeks with militarism from beginning to end. Even in the Seton Indian society there was too much war spirit. The boys were taught war songs and war dances. The whole affair was conducted in imitation of the old Indian wars as if no peaceable games could interest boys. But that was nothing compared with the "improvements" which General Baden-Powell has made. From the very beginning his system makes the boy a soldier. The oaths, the scheme of discipline, the insistence upon rigorous obedience to officers, the assiduous salutes, all smack of army life. In this country the military purpose of the Boy Scouts has been openly proclaimed by some indiscreet commanders. In one case little boys were promised Krag-Jorgenson rifles as soon as they learned the drill with their wooden guns. These boys had a guard house, military drill and all the usual performances of an army. The physical exercise blind had sunk entirely out of sight. The truth of the matter is that the Boy Scout movement is a treasonable attack on modern civilization. It uses a good outer purpose to conceal an evil design. Some who join in its propaganda may be free from bad intent but that can only be the case when they are simpletons or ignoramuses. General Baden-Powell's organization is a sort of modern Jesuitism which aims to conquer the world by perverting the minds of the young.



The raw material and the finished product.

Remember this: Instantly, if the Boy Scout exercises and clothes and equipment and environment were not in every possible way in imitation of and suggestive of the soldier and the soldier's life; if the Boy Scout Movement did not produce the military spirit and the sword-lust and the kill-blindness of the genuine flattered and salaried assassins—instantly the cunning capitalists and their prince-alberted prostitutes and procurers would lose all interest in this cunningly christianized movement for the "upbuilding" of the "dear" boys.

To the Mothers:

The little lovers, the children, who are conceived in love, born in love, and live on love, who hunger for love, long to love, glorify the home with love and make the sad world hope for—almost mad for—love, one generation of these sweet little lovers, these prattling sweethearts of mankind, would, when grown up, fill the world with an international love if they were not bitten by the viper of petty, local patriotism.

The mother who will think about this matter somewhat will promptly realize that there is something disastrously wrong with the education which stings her little lover with a murderer's aspiration. There is something wrong when the gracious neighborliness and charming sociability of children give way to swaggering insolence and savage blood-lust.

THE ORIGIN OF THE BOY SCOUTS

John G. Wanhope, State Organizer of Washington.

Johnny Get Your Gun.

There is no blacker page in English history, than that which deals with the rise and development of machine production. The frightful degradation of child life in England, during that period, has left its impress on the present generation. Physically deformed, and stunted in growth, many of the British working people bear mute witness to the unbridled greed of the pioneer plunderers of early British Capitalism.

When the markets of the world were at her feet, England was the workshop in Capitalistic production; the primary reason for manufacturing was for profit, but the sphere of exploitation is narrowing, and new markets for the disposal of the surplus, must be found.

The Boers of South Africa, a peaceful agricultural people, had the misfortune to locate over immense treasures of gold and diamonds, and the British Capitalists made war on them to possess themselves of this wealth. The Boers, having great faith in God, and a Mauser rifle, fertilized the South African Veldt, with the blood of Britain's best troops. Three times the British government was compelled to lower the physical stand-

ard to get enough soldiers to offer up their lives on the altar of the country, whose ruling class had fed on their misery and degradation.

While the bombs were bursting over Mafeking, in the mind of the murderous mind of a trained man-killer, called Colonel Baden-Powell, an idea was forming. The greasy, fetid atmosphere of an English factory town was not the best place to grow men, whose bodies must be as near perfect as possible, to offer up as a sacrifice to the Capitalists' God of Profit! Why not take the boys when they are young and tender, and train them in the manly art of Murder; while their minds are pliable and plastic, easily moulded, and formed, and the tide of young life beats high. It was a noble and inspiring idea, and was seized upon by every crowned head and cracked brain in Europe. The King of England gave it his sacred sanction, the Kaiser declared it a Divine inspiration, and Bloody Nick of Russia, the tenderest soul who ever murdered a patriot, fighting for liberty, immediately ordered every boy in his vast domain to become a Scout. On this side Teddy was De-lighted, and the smug faced hypocrites of Christian Churchianity anointed it with the Holy Oil of John D. Rockefeller.

In the dim consciousness of millions of workers in America is the growing feeling, that the militia are simply the hired tools and assassins of the Masters. This truth has the tendency of cooling the divine fervor of Patriotism, which formerly prompted the young men to sweat Red, White and Blue blood, and die gloriously for the flag. Enlistments fall off, and every capitalist agency is used to have the parents of boys, 12 years and over, to join the Boy Scout movement. The Church, true to its historic role, always on the side of the tyrant, and oppressor, is lending its aid. Preachers and other piliant tools of Capitalism are busy debauching the minds of these youths under the guise of physical exercise, (by taking them into the forest and field, and teaching them woodcraft. But out of evil springs good sometimes, scouting and prowling around in the woods develops their sense of smell to a wonderful degree. After a few months training, it is asserted, they can smell a jack-rabbit a mile away, a possum ten miles away and a skunk a hundred miles, and they are smelling the skunk.

So, this is the latest effort of murderous plutocrats to bring out and develop the wild beast in man nature, teach him to redden his hands in the blood of his own relatives, and class, for the masters' profit, and then have them washed clean in the blood of the Lamb.

It is the stern duty of every member of the working class to head off this foul conspiracy against the youth of this Nation. The Socialist propagandists are reaching hundreds of thousands of people daily. Let us without fear or favor take our stand on the side of these children, and prevent the wholesale debauching of their minds in the interest of the plutocratic parasites, who have made of this world a shambles. Organize to put an end to wage-slavery and capitalism, and establish Industrial Democracy so that the creators of wealth shall retain possession thereof, and classes and class rule disappear, and the brute struggle between man and man for bread is over.

A boy scout is helpless. Ignorance is always helpless. The boy scout movement is the very latest blessed, anointed and baptized method of flattering the working class into cutting its own throat when it raises



its head too high to suit the employer class.

The Boy Scout movement is an organized, craftily subsidized effort for creating the kill-lust in boys, the love of arms, the desire for the military life, and the brainlessly automatic obedience of soldiers. The Boy Scout movement is an imitate-the-Soldier movement. As many boys as possible are to be blinded with steel-glitter, deafened with drum-roar, dazzled with uniforms and flattery, fooled with drills and marches, seduced with ribbons, sashes, "Teddy" hats, khaki, medals, pictures, picnics and wild tent life in the woods—betrayed into stupid gratitude to the crafty dollar-marked subsidizers of the movement, who plan thus to have a host of trained armed guards ready for use in the swiftly coming future when millions have their wages cut and millions more are forced into the street to the ranks of the unemployed army.

The pretense—of course there is some fine pretense—is that "the boys are to be developed." That is the sly cry of the promoters—"the ennobling development of the youth."

While the boys are to be "developed" they are to have their intellects ossified and their sociability suffocated.

The boys are to have their wills killed by a thousand drills in a slave's crowning virtue—obedience.

Obedience—word of infinite import in the history of organized robbery of the workers by the shirkers.

Obedience, automatic obedience, has been and is now the damnation of the workers.

Caesar is alarmed. The industrial

despot shivers with fear. Why?

Because the slave begins to think and more and more complains and aspires, and also refuses the role of professional cut-throat. The Department of Murder is shriveling in popularity. The fist of blood and iron is decreasingly dependable. The right hand of national and international working class fellowship and working class loyalty begin to charm the toilers of the world. The eyes of the socially damned multitude begin to blaze with intelligent and fascinated realization of the fact that war means suicide for the working class, that hell's sleet of lead and steel from Gatling guns is for the working class, that the jaws of death spread wide for the working class—and only for the working class—in any and all wars.

The slave thinks. Caesar is startled.

Therefore catch the slave's son and kill the kindness of his soul, destroy his sociability, resurrect the savage in his heart, rouse the beast that slumbers in his breast, fire his passions, befog his intellect and kill his will.

Let Mars seduce the boy.

Let the blood-stained god of war blast the boy's fraternalism and plant in his soul the cheap inspirations of a proud-strutting, gilt-braided butcher, afire with desire for bloody deeds.

Sting dead the bud of love in the small boy—the helpless small boy.

A human fool-tool is needed in the shop, mill and mine.

Therefore, set forth, you cheap prostitutes of the various intellectual professions, all of you who bow the

knee to the steel and gold gods of industry, and shout aloud the incomparable excellences, advantages, superiorities, and desirabilities of the Boy Scout enterprise. Take the boys to the woods and train them. Imitate the soldier. Take them to the armory and train them—and also and especially take them to the basement of the churches and train them. Imitate the soldier. Mockingly train them there to "love their fellow men," but carefully prepare them to butcher their fellow men. In substance teach each helpless boy to think and say and agree to this:—

"Obedience is beautiful. Blind obedience to superiors is perfection. I am inferior. I agree that those who are appointed over me ought to be over me. I will make no inquiries. (Imitate the soldier).

"I will obey anybody who is said to be (or who may be appointed by somebody to be) my superior. I will obey all orders from any superior without question. I will obey my employer and be loyal to him. I will obey my captain, because (no matter how cheap, vulgar, ignorant, cruel and vicious he may be) he is my superior. (Imitate the soldier).

"I will always believe that well-dressed people know more than I do, and more than I should be permitted to know. I will always let others inform me what my duty is. I will forget that I have a brain (if I have one). I will gladly learn to handle the sword, rifle and bayonet—for I may be needed, my superiors tell me.

"I will gladly learn the glory of arms, the splendor of war, the grandeur of red-stained patriotism, and the nobility of narrow-brained, low-browed race prejudice and cheap jealousy. I accept my employer as my best friend, as my ideal and my idol. I will make a faithful effort to become a fool—or a loyal endeavor to remain one—for my employer's sake.

"Proudly I accept the high honor of being an automatic jackass, ready for the dull role of armed guard for the coward ruling class. And all I ask is flattery and a 'good time' sometimes—if it suits my employer." (Imitate the soldier).

At the age of three the tiny boys of all races and colors gleefully romp and play together; sociability has its own glad way with them in happy laughter, sweet caresses, and a thousand gracious amiabilities promising the poetry of fraternalism and the ever more glorious levels of life for the human family. But at the age of twenty these same children, shrewdly poisoned with geographic and ethnic "patriotism," cursed by the embrace of Mars, damned by the false teaching of prideless intellectual prostitutes, are proudly ready to slaughter one another at the nod of syphilitic kings, cheap queens, at the order of coarse-grained presidents, pot-house statesmen and small-brained commanders.

By every one of the devil's craft and shameless arts the military is being built strong for war—for the hot civil war in industry. Shrewdly in their unholy manoeuvring the capitalists seize upon a great law of life—the law, the tendency, of young lives to imitate older lives.

Imitation is so potent and so dominating as a law of life in the life of the individual and in the life of society that one of the world's most profound and distinguished sociologists has practically made it the foundation of his system of sociology. By suggestion and imitation the brain—the habits, customs, ambitions and aspirations of the generations are molded for the activities of life. The thousand lessons of complex human life could never be learned by the human child if it could not or would not imitate. Imitation is nature's prime method of

preparing the young of nearly all species for many activities of life.

The mimetic—or imitating—instinct of children is so powerful that the child would imitate the devil—if attractively presented and suggested for the child's admiration and imitation.

The purpose of the Boy Scout Movement is to make certain phases and exercises of the soldier's life resistlessly charming for the small boy's imagination and admiration—just as the graceful movements and the delicate stripes and colorings on a deadly reptile's body enable the vile thing to fascinate those whom it would sting to death or crush in its powerful coils.

A boy scout is an incipient assassin, a budding jingo, a germinating butcher of men—a boy, innocent and excellent fruit of love, being transformed into a blood-lusting tool to serve in the great class struggle as an iron fist for the employer class against the working class.

GEO. R. KIRKPATRICK.

THE BOY SCOUT MOVEMENT—ITS AIM.

C. B. Ellis.

"Most of all it is essential in these times of covetous greed, to keep the multitude within the line of duty.

"There are not a few who are imbued with bad principles and are anxious for revolutionary change.

"The authority of the state should intervene to put restraint on these disturbers, to save the workmen from their seditious arts."

Encyclical of Pope Leo XIII, 1891.

The argus-eyed mother church, broadly surveying the industrial field

to inquire into the reasons for this desire "for revolutionary change" upon the part of "not a few." Nor is it her mission to remedy it, but to repress and teach repression in co-operation with the military power of the State, "to keep the multitude within the line of duty." The church has felt the pulse of the people and reports temperature. The State responds with the boy scout movement. For once the eternal war of creed with creed is ended and the doors of the temple of Janus swing shut. Master saint and master heretic unite in common cause against a common foe—the hungry hordes of their starving and despoiled victims. It is time to offer up a hecatomb of working cattle upon the altar of Mammon.

It is consistent that a movement conceived in the spirit of murder should express itself in hypocrisy. The boy scout movement presents itself, therefore, in the guise of an uplift, an effort to remedy the evil effects of city industrial life upon the youth of the land. It cries, "Back to Nature!" and its pious sponsors, preachers and soldiers, unite in a protest that it is non-military in its purpose. The ministers of the gospel of the Prince of Peace, the Rev. Corby and others are the forerunners of Lieut.-Gen. Baden-Powell, the "Hero of Mafeking."

Preachers and soldiers! The cross of Calvary and the crosses of the Appian Way!

Let us consider the movement in its own light. The official document of the boy scout movement is "Scouting for Boys," by Lieut.-Gen. Sir Robert Baden-Powell, K. C. B. It is a red covered volume dedicated

chivalry of the ten-cent melodrama. It contemns the poverty stricken masses of Britain and America, spurns the unemployed, calls them "wasters" and "shirkers" and in ignorance of the operation of the law of economic exploitation which creates the reserve army of unemployed labor, declares there is work for all and money for all. (Pg. 290). Its psychology is imbued with the militarist's contempt for the caste of labor—the labor that feeds it in its parasitic uselessness.

In a specious plea for the education of youth in the heroic virtues, is concealed a sinister purpose to familiarize the boy with the idea of blood-shed and violence and to blunt the social sympathies which have raised humanity from the brute level. Here is a gem from page 175, describing a game to be played by the scouts:

"All get up. They start to dig a grave. When ready, the thief is made to stand up, his eyes are bound. THE SENTRY TAKES A PISTOL AND SHOTS HIM. Remainder then bring a blanket and lift the dead man and carry him to the grave, etc."

Military execution!

Here is another "non-military" extract from page 277:

"Shooting at a fixed target is only a step toward SHOOTING AT A MOVING ONE LIKE A MAN. Firing at moving objects is, of course, more difficult, but MORE REAL, because you will not find a deer OR AN ENEMY as a rule kind enough to stand still while you shoot at him.

"The very best practice for this is always to be aiming at moving objects with your staff, using it as if it were a rifle. AIM FIRST AT THE MAN, then moving the muzzle a little faster than he is moving, and fire while moving it when it is pointing where he will be a second or two later and the bullet will just get there at the same time as he does and WILL HIT HIM."

This very precise instruction in murder as a fine art can be found in the children's department of our libraries only.

The burthen of the book is drill, discipline and military routine. Its dominant note is a warning to the capitalist powers against the discontent of the worker and the rising spirit of revolt against unbearable industrial conditions. Its object is to train the boy to kill, not the foreign invader for invasion is an impossibility under modern military conditions, but to kill workers, to "keep the multitude within the line of duty." It is to bind and rivet upon us those chains which capitalism has so long been forging.

Let democracy, awakened, cast out this menace to liberty—the military spirit of plutocracy enthroned.

"Note the optimism with which the Christian Herald speaks of calling out the militia—the spirit of sweet charity in which it tells of the use of club and bayonet, of the

drenching of hunger pinched bodies with ice cold water:

Rifles and bristling bayonets again receive honorable mention.

Mayor Scanlon's "shoot to kill" orders are unctiously quoted.

All so Christ-like. All in His name.

We can almost see this hypocritical slanderer of Christ herding innocent boys into the church basement for boy scout drill.

Boy scouts grown are behind the rifles and bristling bayonets at Lawrence.

The minister who fosters the boy scout movement should tear from the portals of his church the legend "Peace on earth and good will toward men." Rather should skull and crossbones call attention to the more appropriate motto, "Ye who enter here, all hope abandon."

To the bloody service of capitalist oppression, dear mother, the church asks you to give your boy. DON'T. (Anna Maley, in Commonwealth.)

A New Pledge for Boys.

I refuse to kill your father. I refuse to slay your mother's son. I refuse to plunge a bayonet into the breast of your sister's brother. I refuse to slaughter your sweetheart's lover. I refuse to murder your wife's husband. I refuse to butcher your little child's father. I refuse to wet the earth with blood and blind kind eyes with tears. I refuse to assassinate you and then hide my stained fists in the fold of any flag.

I refuse to be flattered into hell's nightmare by a class of well-fed snobs, crooks and cowards who despise our class socially, rob our class economically and betray our class politically.

Will you thus pledge me and pledge all the members of our working class?

"No man has imagination enough to paint the agonies, the horrors, the cruelties, of war. Think of sending shot and shell crashing thru the bodies of men! Think of the widows and orphans! Think of the maimed, the mutilated, the mangled!"—Ingersoll.

WHY DO CAPITALISTS WANT WARS? READ WAR, WHAT FOR? BY GEO. KIRKPATRICK, THE GREATEST INDICTMENT OF WAR EVER WRITTEN.

Were half the power that fills the world with terror,

Were half the wealth bestowed on camps and courts,

Given to redeem the world from error,

There would be no need of arsenals and forts.

—Longfellow.

OUR MOTTO.

No Boys, and No Money, For Such an Iniquitous Institution.



twenty years ago, viewed the progress of the economic revolution which converted the artisan and agricultural population into a city proletariat of dispossessed and disinherited supplicants, vending their labor power from master to master. And, faithful guardian of the interests of mastership, she played her historic role of harlot-informer and betrayed the confessional to the council of state.

It is not the function of the church

to "His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales, and His Royal Highness, Prince Albert." It is to be found in all public libraries, but in the children's department only. The book fairly bristles with artificial dignities and the clap-trap of feudal fustian and buncombe. It breathes the spirit of the vulgar English parvenu ennobled, a semi-savage delight in trinketry and mummery, brass buttons, gold lace, senseless insignia, maudlin sentiment and the

THE ECONOMIC PHASE OF THE BOY SCOUT MOVEMENT.

T. J. Lewis.

It must be apparent to every intelligent, thoughtful, man or woman, the real source from which the Boy Scout Movement receives its encouragement.

Not by the Socialist Party, Labor Unions, or any of the Liberal Societies, but by the Big Business interests and the Commercial Clubs, who use the institutions at their command, namely the Y. M. C. A., the Churches, and even the schools in the endeavor to hide the sinister, ECONOMIC motive, under the guise of the physical, and moral welfare of the child.

How do we explain this?

To the Socialist, who has studied conditions, and their causes, and who understands the Material Basis, the explanation is simple.

The workers are at last awakening, as the result of past and present experiences, to the fact that the soldiery was composed mostly of workingmen, with the exception of the officers, and when they enlisted swore all their rights away to the government; many from patriotic motives, others, forced by hunger, because they were unable to find employment.

But the illusion of working for Uncle Sam as a soldier is ceasing to be an illusion. Being trained to murder any and all, when called upon, the menial service, and harsh discipline, has created a spirit of revolt in the workers. They are seeing more clearly that they are drilled, not to fight a foreign foe, but their fellow workers, when they dared to strike for better conditions, for themselves and families. Out of these conditions wholesale desertions took place, and enlistments became fewer, despite the efforts of the recruiting officers, who in despair, are resorting to cheap advertising methods, depicting supposed Army scenes on big bill-boards, and dressing the recruiting sergeant as if he were one of Astor's pet ponies, but all to little avail, as the workers are refusing to bite.

In the meantime the workers, thru conditions, are forced to organize along class lines; they are becoming militant, and rising in a spirit of Solidarity, with an understanding that Human life is superior to property.

So the leisure class becoming frightened, are seeking another method. Ah! Grand Idea! Organize, and train the boys along military lines, capture and pervert what was intended as organization for the physical well being of the children, into a murder training institution. Where they take the oath to obey all the commands of the Chief Scout. And the object is to instill in their little minds the desire to shoot; brutalized them to such an extent that some day, when called upon, in case of a strike, they will not hesitate to shoot their fathers, mothers, sisters or brothers. And the child would not be to blame, for the power of suggestion in the sense of duty, after continued discipline for a period of time, would prepare the child subject to the oath, to obey when commanded, and the capitalist class would laud him as the world's greatest hero.

It is to their Economic interest that such a movement should be a success. And it is to our Economic interest that it be a failure. So it is up to every Mother and Father to see to it that none of our children shall be led into the abominable and atrocious trap.

If they wish their interests protected, let them train their own children, if they have any.

Workers, we have nothing in com-

mon with the Master class, or any of their propositions. Our duty is to organize politically, and economically, in our own interests, and protect ourselves, and children, and let the capitalist look out for themselves. The Socialist movement having for its object the economic interest of the working class, and the final abolition of wage-slavery, calls upon all workers to gather under its banner, with the understanding that there must be no contention between worker and worker, as there is a class struggle on between exploiter and exploited. We of the working class must stand together, irrespective of race, creed, or color, and destroy the system of rent, interest, and profit, the great Trinity. And inaugurate in its stead an Industrial Democracy, where all will have an equal opportunity, and where all will receive the social equivalent in product for labor energy expended; then and not till then will militarism, crime and poverty, as well as classes, be swept from the face of the earth.

All the "best" people are encouraging the movement—from President Taft to the pettiest political and sacerdotal snivlings willing to sell their souls for bread and popularity with the kings of industry. The boy scout movement is a recent handsome wrinkle on the snout of the beast of capitalism.—Geo. R. Kirkpatrick.

CHRISTIANITY AND WAR.

(From the German of Bodenstedt.)
Talk, if you will, of hero deed,
Of clash of arms and battle wonders;
But prate not of your Christian creed
Preached by the cannon's murderous thunders.

And if your courage needs a test,
Copy the pagan's fierce behavior;
Revel in bloodshed east and west,
But speak not with it of the Saviour.

The Turk may wage a righteous war
In honor of his martial Allah;
But Thor and Odin live no more—
Dead are the gods in our Valhalla.

Be what you will, entire and free,
Christian or warrior—each can please us;
But not the rank hypocrisy
Of warlike followers of Jesus.

BRAVE BOY SCOUTS.

Nina Lane-Finch.

Come here, dear little boys,
And if you're very good
I'll show you how to drill with guns
Made out of harmless wood.

And then when you're perfect
And learned to march and drill,
I'll call you out some winter day
And show you how to kill.

You can take a shot at father,
He's now out on a strike,
And try to pot your mother
Some cold and stormy night.

They surely do deserve it,
The ignorant, drudging things;
Just think! the boldness of them,
Low, underpaid hirelings.

You can march with the militia,
The capitalists' paid tools,
And murder in security,
Your parents, dear—poor fools.

And maybe brother Johnny,
A helper in the mill,
And sister Ann, a sweatshop drudge;
Ah! What sport to kill.

Just notice how the grafters
And grinning monopolists
Stand waiting for you smiling,
A gun in either fist.

Just look at the dear capitalist,
A proud and haughty man,
He's rooting for the Brave Boy Scouts,
Like any baseball fan.

So now, dear little children,
And Wops, nice little boy,
Come get your "wand" and practice;
'Tis but a harmless toy.

MEN AND WOMEN.

It is right that you should use every means available to enhance the physical and moral well-being of your children.

Does the idea of Sir Robert Baden-Powell, K. C. B. (some other affixes might more appropriately be applied) as exemplified in the Boy Scout movement answer this purpose?

If merely the physical well-being of the boy is to be considered we can answer in the affirmative, as it is true that all outdoor exercises, such as camping, hunting, fishing, etc., are beneficial as tending to develop alertness, agility, and other desirable qualities, and if that were all that is comprehended in the idea by Baden-Powell, we would be heartily in accord with him. But under-

lying, is the desire to have full control of the young mind, to train it in the way that the master class desire it to be trained, train it to obedience of its whims and desires. Does he wish the young mind to rely on itself, to obey only natural laws? Not on your life! Being a trained mankiller, and therefore fit for the task, he starts out by showing the boys how to aim correctly, that the shot might find the target, and KILL the MAN. This object is detrimental to the developing of a fine and NOBLE quality of character. Don't you think the price too dear?

TO SIR GENERAL ROBERT BADEN POWELL, K. C. B.

(Who Gets \$500 a Lecture.)

Hail to the Hero!
Decked out in blue, red and gilt,
as in war paint.

Rejoicing like a savage in a long head-feather and gold shouldered fringes.

Proud to commit, with these adornments, all the crimes for which he would be disgraced and punished as a felon without them.

Modestly bearing on his breast a star and ribbon which say "I am a Hero" as plainly as the beggar's placard says "I am blind."

Followed by a brass band and bass drum, which screw up his courage at a pinch like the war dance and tom-tom of the Central African and redskin.

Vain of his manliness in the field while indulging in effeminate quarrelling over the honors, at the rate of a month's quarrelling to a half-hour's fighting.

Admitting that he obeys orders without thinking, and thus proclaiming his complete abdication of conscience and intellect.

Rushing home from the fray to advertise himself in the magazines at a hundred dollars a page.

Hail to the Hero!
O shade of Cervantes!
Come back and draw for us another Don Quixote.

Prick this bubble of militarism as you pricked that other bubble of knight-errantry.

The world yearns for your reappearing.

Come and depict the Hero!

ERNEST CROSBY.

"The phrases men are accustomed to repeat incessantly, end by becoming convictions, and ossify the organs of intelligence."—Goethe.

The militia and the cossacks are human boots with which the rulers kick the complaining working class.



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